

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

July 24th, 2016

“...they shall not prevail
against thee; for I AM
with thee, saith the
LORD, to deliver thee.”

JEREMIAH 1:19

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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July 24th, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

“The more we look at CHRIST crucified, the more we will mourn for sin. Look at the cross until all that is on the cross is in your heart. He who was pierced is your GOD, your MAKER, your BENEFactor, and BEST FRIEND.” (JOHN 15:13)

PASTOR **JACK SHANKS**

FOUR QUESTIONS

“...CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS...” (1 TIMOTHY 1:15)

There are four vital questions set forth in the Gospel of our LORD JESUS CHRIST that we all will have to deal with and answer, both now and when we are brought before the bar of truth, when this life is over. Universally, mankind refuses to recognize and deal with these humbling truths because the answers are not that which is agreeable to the flesh. Man deals with these issues now by ignoring them and stopping their eyes and ears to the eternal truth of Scripture. This is the same response that man had toward our Lord when he was on the earth. Need we suppose it would be different now? Man's hatred for GOD and truth has never changed, and never will, until and unless, GOD in *sovereign mercy* and *grace* gives them a new heart.

IS GOD REALLY GOD? What does this question imply? If GOD is GOD, then he is exactly as the Bible declares him to be! GOD is holy, just, infinite, majestic, glorious and sovereign. He does as he pleases, when

he pleases, with whom he pleases and none can give him counsel, nor question what he does. GOD is GOD, or he is no GOD at all. Is your GOD the GOD of the Bible or another?

WHO IS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST? If JESUS CHRIST is LORD, then he is exactly that! He is LORD! He is GOD incarnate. The WORD made flesh. He is the divine and perfect man in one body. The LORD JESUS CHRIST is one. In him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. He is GOD's SON—GOD's LAMB; GOD's image of himself. He is the visible image of the invisible GOD. The LORD JESUS CHRIST, as a man, is exalted at GOD's right hand having all power in heaven and earth. Is this the JESUS you love and bow to? If he is not, then you do not know the one LORD JESUS CHRIST!

HOW DOES GOD, WHO IS HOLY, JUST AND RIGHTEOUS SAVE SINNERS, AND YET REMAIN AS HE IS? GOD saves sinful men by substitution. GOD saves sinners in the LORD JESUS CHRIST. GOD made him to be sin, that he might make sinners righteous. The final judgment and punishment for sin is eternal death. The LORD JESUS CHRIST, in his suffering and death underwent the equivalent of the sinner's eternal punishment to the satisfaction of the JUST and HOLY GOD. The blood and righteousness of the LORD JESUS CHRIST guarantees the eternal salvation of all those for whom GOD intended it.

ARE YOU A SINNER? Men make a joke of sin and being a sinner. David's thoughts about himself were scriptural. He said, against thee, and thee only have I sinned and done this evil in thy sight. Paul wrote, all have sinned and come short of the glory of GOD. The question is not, *"Have I made some mistakes?"* or, *"Am I imperfect?"* The question is *"Am I a sinner before God?"* (ISAIAH 40 & 43; JOHN 1; ACTS 4; ROMANS 3)

PASTOR **TOMMY ROBBINS**

A HAPPY MAN

"BLESSED [HAPPY] ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT..." (MATTHEW 5:3)

The world says just the opposite of this: *"Happy are the rich."* Of course, this has nothing to do with being hard up in our circumstances. There is no virtue in physical poverty, and also no disgrace. Poverty of spirit is a given grace by the Spirit of God.

Look at the religion of our day. I see conferences advertised on *"Promoting the higher life."* I would like to attend one on furthering the lowly life. Many books tell us how to be filled with the Spirit, but I am interested in what it means to be emptied of self-importance and self-righteousness.

What then is poverty of spirit? I do not know from practical experience, but perhaps it is this. It is to realize that I have nothing, am nothing, can do nothing, and have need of all things. It could be to become aware of the fact that our best performances are an abomination to the HOLY GOD.

I am convinced that all unhappiness is caused by selfishness. We didn't get what we deserved. Happiness could be to realize that anything this side of hell is mercy. All worth is HIS provision, and conceit [pride] of my own attainments has nothing to do with GOD.

Are you convinced that Blessed [happy] are the poor in spirit? If so, you will rest your whole soul on CHRIST and HIS BLOOD shed in the stead of sinners. There is no hope of salvation that goes beyond CHRIST or besides [along side] CHRIST. If you deviate from the bloody CHRIST, it is fatal to you forever. Everything we are, everything we do, must be set in the crimson of HIS PRECIOUS BLOOD. And all that we say must be said in great gratitude to HIM who loved us and gave HIMSELF for us.

If I ever understand what I have written here, then I will truly be a happy man. LORD, give grace and understanding.

PASTOR **JACK SHANKS**

AN EXPECTED END

“FOR I KNOW THE THOUGHTS THAT I THINK TOWARD YOU, SAITH THE LORD, THOUGHTS OF PEACE, AND NOT OF EVIL, TO GIVE YOU AN EXPECTED END.” (JEREMIAH 29:11)

Do you know what that expected end is beloved? The answer is found in JUDE chapter 1 verse 24—*“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”* Our LORD finished the work of our salvation, and in the covenant of God's eternal grace, we have always been in HIS view, HIS joy, that of presenting us faultless before the presence of HIS glory with exceeding joy! Beloved look unto JESUS the *author* and *finisher* of our faith! The author and finisher of our salvation, CHRIST JESUS the LORD who *“...for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* (HEBREWS 12:2)

He has us in view beloved! We are the joy set before him, that glorious day when He will give us—all His people an *expected end*. He tells us what it is beloved, *“whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* (JOHN 3:15)

PASTOR